

REMARKS

Claims 2-11, 13-21, 23-31, and 33 are pending in this application. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the allowance of claim 2, 13, 23, and 33. By this Amendment, claims 2-4, 10, 11, 14, 15, 21, 24, 25, and 31 have been amended to depend from the allowable claims and claims 1, 12, 22, and 32 are canceled without prejudice to expedite issuance of the allowed pending claims. Thus, all of the pending dependent claims ultimately depend from allowable claims 2, 13, 23, and 33. In light of the amendments and remarks set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that each of the pending claims is in immediate condition for allowance.

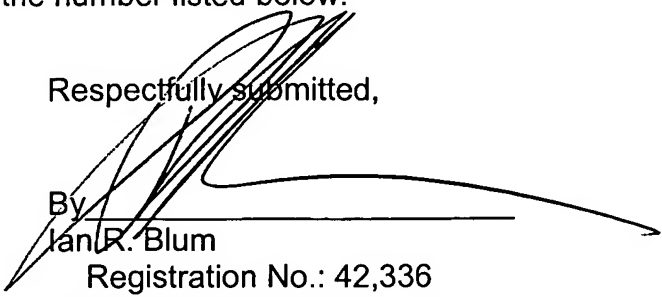
Applicant has responded to all of the rejections and objections recited in the Office Action. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner believes an interview would be of assistance, the Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Dated: August 2, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Ian R. Blum

Registration No.: 42,336
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP
1177 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036-2714
(212) 277-6500
Attorney for Applicant

IRB/mgs